

**Testimony of Shuana K. Tucker, Ph.D. Submitted to The
Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee
March 26, 2015**

Good day Senator Duff, Representative Janowski, Senator Kane, Representative Buck-Taylor and members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee. My name is Shuana K. Tucker and it is an honor and a privilege to be appointed as a Commissioner to the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities by Governor Dannel P. Malloy.

I am a resident of Middlebury, Connecticut where I reside with my husband and son, and a native of New Orleans, Louisiana. I come from a legacy of persons committed to civil rights and equality for ALL individuals.

As a Connecticut resident for the past 10.5 years, this legacy of equality and helping those in need transcend with me personally and in my professional career.

Currently, I serve as the Talent and Professional Development Supervisor in Waterbury Public Schools. Prior to that appointment, I served as the Director of the Administrator Preparation Program at the University of Connecticut and also had the opportunity to work in both the Hartford and Danbury School Districts.

Prior to moving to CT, I was employed at the U.S. Department of Education and Texas Instruments. My experience in the private, federal and public education arena has afforded me the opportunity to work with all types of persons from all walks of life. One of my strengths has been to identify talented people for specific jobs to effect change in our global, competitive society.

My education has prepared me to analyze data and make informed decisions, as well as, develop policies that are fair and don't infringe upon anyone's rights. Policy development and program evaluation are constants which assist me in informing and reinforcing best practices at all levels. Within the community, I am a member of several organizations which all focus on service through volunteerism.

I am truly humbled that I've been asked to serve in this position and will utilize my strengths and resources to uphold the mission of the agency and serve as an advocate for social justice for all of Connecticut's citizens.

Thank you for this opportunity.